

P0030287

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Massachusetts
 COUNTY: Middlesex
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY DATE: OCT 9 1974

HB
 E322430
 2-19
 N 4707 670

1. NAME

COMMON: North Congregational Parish Church
 AND/OR HISTORIC: The (1790 House) (use for publication)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 827 Main Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Woburn CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 7th
 STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025 COUNTY: Middlesex CODE: 017

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
		<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: North Congregational Church
 STREET AND NUMBER: Main Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Woburn STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds
 STREET AND NUMBER: Cambridge Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth
 DATE OF SURVEY: 1968 and 1973 Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Massachusetts Historical Commission
 STREET AND NUMBER: 40 Beacon Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Boston STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Massachusetts
 COUNTY: Middlesex
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY NUMBER: 0019
 DATE: 1974

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Constructed 1790-1800, the 1790 House, 827 Main Street, faces west on three acres of land, surrounded by modern commercial and residential development. Nearby is a small section of woods, and one mile north is North Woburn Center. Across Main Street is a dwelling and field; to the southwest is a large shopping center. To the east, behind the house, a vast field runs down to the Middlesex Canal (on the National Register). Across the canal lies the Baldwin Mansion (also on the National Register).

The 1790 House is much the same in appearance today as it was when it was finally completed in 1800, though a small addition has been built to the rear. The house is a two-story hip-roof Federal, 7 bays wide and 4 deep, with wooden quoins, and covered with imitation ashlar on the facade and clapboards elsewhere. The facade projects a central 2-tiered balustraded porch topped by a triangular pediment. The porch is supported by two 1-story Tuscan columns flanked by two 2-story Doric columns on pedestals at the corners. Behind each of the four columns, on the facade, is a Doric pilaster, of the same height as the respective column. The one-story pilasters flank an entrance door; there is an identical door above it, opening onto the balcony. The pediment, porch and house cornice are dentiled, as are the the lintels of the first floor facade windows. The second floor windows on the main house are 8/12 and the first floor windows are 12/12, and they are vertically connected by an unadorned panel, the width of the window.

The facade is covered with imitation ashlar and the other elevations are covered with clapboard. The north and south elevations boast a handsome and elaborate off-center doorway. Surrounded by small blocks of imitation ashlar, they are topped by a keystone and dentiled traingular pediment and are supported by Doric pilasters. A gable containing a Palladian window rises from the roof on the east (rear) side; the arched ceiling of the second floor ballroom extends into this gable.

A shed-roof lean-to runs along the east side and connects with a 2-story half-gambrel addition, 2 bays long, that extends east from the southeast corner. The half-gambrel addition has two ridge-roof dormers. The two additons are sided with clapboards and their windows are 6/6 sash.

The interior retains all of its original elaborate mouldings, plaster work, and fireplace mantels.

The original estate was composed of 80 acres, but has been diminished to 3. The original gateway to the estate was located on the present Elm Street, which was the main route to North Woburn before Main Street was laid out. The entire property along Elm Street was bordered by an ornate fence which swept inward at the gates, and the driveway was lined on each side with Linden trees, imported from England.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1790-1800

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The 1790 House is primarily significant for its connection with Col. Loammi Baldwin. In 1790 Joseph Bartlett purchased 80 acres of land from Josiah Pierce, and began to erect a dwelling on the site. Mr. Bartlett was one of Woburn's first lawyers. He never completed the structure, however, and sold the frame and the surrounding lands to Col. Loammi Baldwin, whose lavish home and farm were just across the fields from Bartlett's property.

Col. Baldwin (1745-1807) was one of the town's most respected and prosperous citizens. One of America's earliest civil engineers, he was responsible for the construction of the Middlesex Canal. He also commanded Woburn's militia at Lexington and Concord; was Colonel of the 26th Continental Regiment in the Revolution, Sheriff of Middlesex County, Representative to the Massachusetts General Court, and lastly, propogator of the world famous Baldwin Apple.

The Colonel took Bartlett's frame and built an opulent Federalist manor, complete with a ballroom with domed ceiling on the second floor. Although he never took up residence there, he utilized the structure as a social hall on his 212 acre estate, which included his own home (The Baldwin Mansion, National Register) and several other structures.

He opened the house in season for a Grand Centennial Ball in 1800. Many local notables attended, including the Countess Rumford. She was the daughter of his lifelong friend and Woburn neighbor, the scientist and philanthropist, Count Rumford. (The Count's birthplace is on Elm Street at North Woburn Center).

The 1790 House was the scene of many gay balls while the Colonel was alive. He gave a "Silk Stocking Ball" here in 1802 and there was also a gala here in 1803 to celebrate the opening of the Middlesex Canal. The canal, a principal engineering feat of the Colonel, is located just behind this beautiful home.

Upon Col. Baldwin's death in 1807, the 1790 House passed into the hands of his several sons, three of whom were distinguished civil engineers in their own right, particularly Loammi II (1780-1838) who is often called "the father of American Civil Engineering".

At least five ministers of early Woburn made their home in the 1790 House, including the Rev. S. Wydon of the Baptist Church, from 1808-1811 and the Rev. Thomas Waterman from 1811-1820, when the Baldwin brothers sold the home to Archelaus Tay.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Handbook of Woburn Historic Sites, unpub., Woburn Public Library.
2. Converse, P., Legends of Woburn, Boston, 1892.
3. Cutter, W., Historic Homes and Places and Genealogical and Personal Memoirs Relating to the Families of Middlesex County, Mass., Boston, 1908.
4. Historic American Building Survey: Catalogue of Mass., 1965.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		42° 30' 10 1/2"	71° 09' 34"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 3 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
For Elizabeth Amadon, State Survey Director, By Mindy Arbo

ORGANIZATION: Massachusetts Historical Commission DATE: 10/16/73

STREET AND NUMBER:
40 Beacon Street

CITY OR TOWN: Boston STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 1025

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: John F. X. Davoren
Honorable John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth

Title: Chairman, Massachusetts Historical Commission

Date: 5/7/74

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

A. R. Montrose
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 10/9/74

ATTEST:
Charles A. Stearns
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 10-8-74

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Massachusetts	
COUNTY	
Middlesex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	OCT 9 1974

(Number all entries)

The 1790 House, Woburn

8. SIGNIFICANCE

Mr. Tay resided in the house until 1827, and he allowed the Rev. Joseph Bennett of the First Congregational Church, to move in in 1822. The house was owned by Col. Charles Carter from 1827 to 1862. Rev. Melancthon Wheeler bought the home in 1865 and was pastor of the North Congregational Church until his death in 1870. It remained in the Wheeler family, and the famous American authoress, Frances Parkinson Keyes, Wheeler's granddaughter, visited here often. She used the 1790 House as one of the settings for her novel, Roses in December. The home passed out of the Wheeler family in 1892, when it went through a succession of owners and was finally bought in 1956 by the North Congregational Church, the present owner. Since that time, it has been used at various times as a Parish House, Bible school, and social function hall.

Over the years, many undocumented legends have been told by local residents concerning the 1790 House, which has also been known as the Count Rumford House, Joseph Bartlett House (HABS), Wheeler House, and Hill House. One of the most persistent legends has been that Col. Baldwin built the house for the self-exiled Count Rumford to return to from Europe. Chronological differences and Rumford's simple tastes seem to rule this out. It is known that he never returned to America. Another legend places the home as one of the stations on the Underground Railroad. An underground tunnel was supposed to have run across the fields (now Main Street) to the Baldwin farmhouse. In the 1790 House there is a small fireplace in the attic that was supposedly used by runaway slaves.

The 1790 House has architectural significance as a handsome example of a Federal mansion. Its notable features are its combination of ashlar and clapboards, its three pedimented and pilastered doorways, its rear Palladian window, and the elaborate interior moldings and plaster work.



PROPERTY The 1790 House
North Congregational Parish Church STATE Mass.

WORKING NUMBER 5.16.74.803

TECH REVIEW
PHOTOS 3
MAPS 1

Middlesex

CONTROL REVIEW

cm
5.22.
74

OK

HISTORIAN

Accept
W. R. Luce
8/2/74

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN
sig. in religion is weak. It would have been better to include social/humanitarian instead. otherwise ok.

Accept
JCT
7/31/74

ARCHEOLOGIST

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

ACCEPT
COLZ
9/12/74

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

Accept
Thurston
for Mintage
10-8-74

National Register Write-up Nov. 12, 1974

Send-back _____

Federal Register entry 12/3/74

Re-submit _____

Entered OCT 9 1974



FORM 10-301 A
(6/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

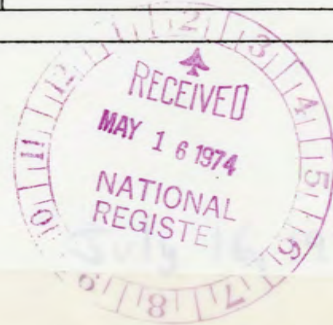
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
North Congregational Church Parish	The 1790 House	OCT 9 1974
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Massachusetts	Middlesex	Woburn
STREET AND NUMBER		
827 Main Street		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
J.J.Danca	1973	photographer
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

North elevation (rear).

East elevation (rear).

#1 of 3 photos



GPO 932-009

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



FORM 10-301 A
(6/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		
COMMON North Congregational Church Parish	AND/OR HISTORIC The 1790 House	NUMERIC CODE <i>(Assigned by NPS)</i> OCT 9 1974
2. LOCATION		
STATE Massachusetts	COUNTY Middlesex	TOWN Woburn
STREET AND NUMBER 827 Main Street		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT J. J. Danca	DATE 1973	NEGATIVE FILED AT photographer
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

South elevation

2 of 3 photos



GPO 932-009

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



FORM 10-301 A
(6/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME

COMMON

North Congregational Church
Parish

AND/OR HISTORIC

The 1790 House

NUMERIC CODE *(Assigned by NPS)*

OCT 9 1974

2. LOCATION

STATE

Massachusetts

COUNTY

Middlesex

TOWN

Woburn

STREET AND NUMBER

827 Main Street

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

J. J. Danca

DATE

1973

NEGATIVE FILED AT
photographer

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

West facade and north elevation, taken from northwest corner.

#3 of 3 photos



GPO 932-009

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME

COMMON

North Congregational Church
Parish

AND/OR HISTORIC

The 1790 House

NUMERIC CODE *(Assigned by NPS)*

OCT 9 1974

2. LOCATION

STATE

Massachusetts

COUNTY

Middlesex

TOWN

Woburn

STREET AND NUMBER

827 Main Street

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

U.S.G.S. Wilmington, Mass.

DATE

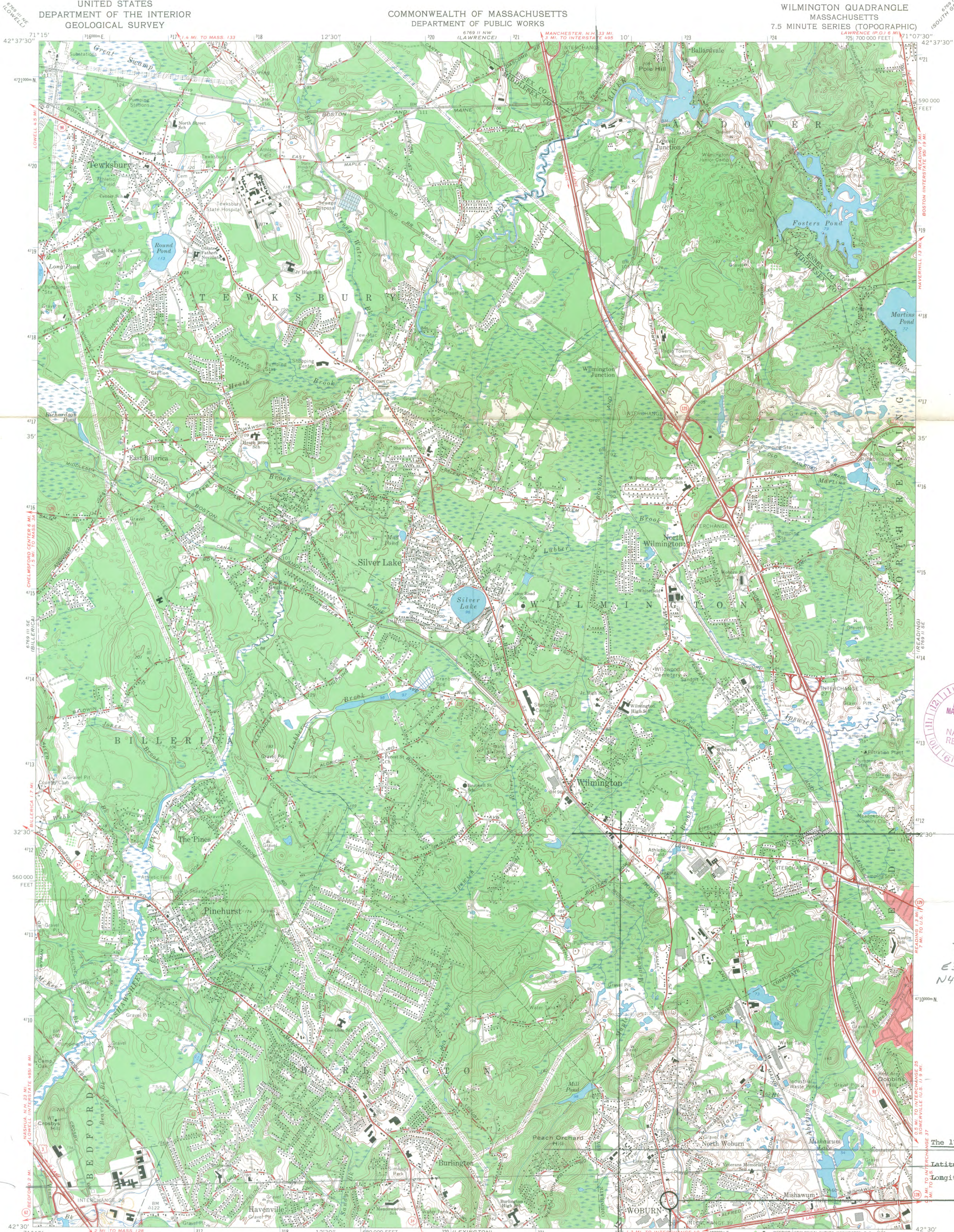
1965

SCALE

1: 24,000

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW.

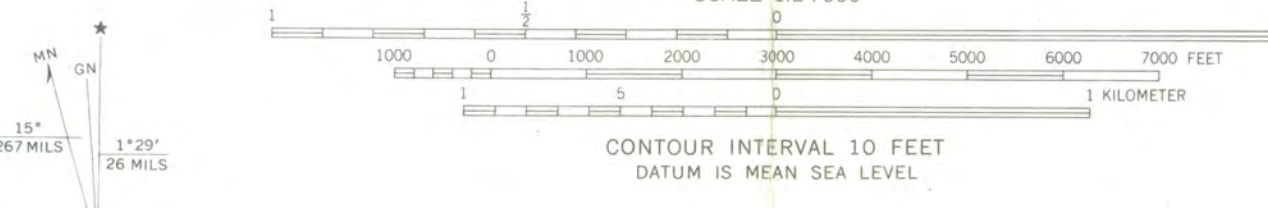




HB
Z. 19
E322430
N4707670

The 1790 House, Woburn
Latitude 42° 30' 10"
Longitude 71° 09' 34"

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken
1939. Topography by planimetric surveys 1942. Revised 1955
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

WILMINGTON, MASS.
N4230—W7107.5/7.5
1965
AMS 6769 II SW—SERIES V814



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission

John F. X. Davoren

40 Beacon Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Secretary of the Commonwealth

727-8470

May 13, 1974



National Register
National Park Service
18th and C Streets
Washington D.C. 20240

Attention: Charles Herrington, Chief of Register

CERTIFIED MAIL

Dear Charles:

Enclosed are four National Register submissions for the following properties:

1. Woburn, The 1790 House, Middlesex County
2. Plymouth, Jabez Howland House, Plymouth County
3. Plymouth, Richard Sparrow House, Plymouth County
4. Arlington, The Jason Russell House, Middlesex County

These have been declared eligible for submission by the Massachusetts Historical Commission, the State Review Board, and have been signed by the Secretary of the Commonwealth John F.X. Davoren, Chairman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission and designated the State Liason Officer.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Amadon
State Survey Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

ERA/ma
enclosures

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered OCT 9 1974

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Russell, The Jason, House	Arlington Middlesex County
Hale, Rev. John, House	Beverly Essex County
<u>The 1790 House</u>	Woburn Middlesex County
Sparrow, Richard, House	Plymouth Plymouth County
Howland, Jabez, House	Plymouth Plymouth County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.
Hon. Michael J. Harrington
Hon. Torbert H. MacDonald
Hon. Gerry E. Studts
Regional Director, North
Atlantic Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

PR MMott/row 10/11/74

Munich

N P S

OCT 31 1974

INFO. OFFICE



October 29, 1974

Director
National Park Service
US Department of the Interior
Washington D.C. 20240

Dear Sirs:

On October 22, 1974, our church's parish house was officially accepted for the National Register of Historic Places. It is known as "The 1790 House", Woburn, Massachusetts.

As Pastor of the church, I am interested in determining the meaning, the responsibilities, and the obligations this entails. Please send me information on the regulations and guidelines of the National Register. Copies of legislation establishing the Register as well as amendments would be most desirable.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,
Rev. Nancy M. Klassen
Rev. Nancy M. Klassen

Send to:
Rev. Nancy M. Klassen
53 Elm St.
Woburn, MASS 01801

H34-PR

Middlesex County
Mass
NOV 15 1974

11/14
11/15

Reverend Nancy H. Klassen
53 Elm Street
Woburn, Massachusetts 01801

Dear Reverend Klassen:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the listing of "The 1790 House" in the National Register of Historic Places.

Listing in the National Register is a governmental recognition that a property possesses historic values. Such listing does not place restrictions upon a private owner or upon a State or local government acting without Federal involvement. It does, however insure that any Federal agency contemplating an undertaking or licensing action which would have an effect on the property will allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation opportunity to review and comment on the action. Also, such listing makes the property eligible for financial assistance under Title I of the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act (80 Stat. 915), as amended.

We hope the enclosed leaflet and fact sheet will be useful to you, and we shall be happy to answer any further questions.

Sincerely yours,

Charles A. Herrington (Sgd.)

for

William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register

Enclosures

cc: Honorable John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108 w/cy inc.
FNP:V Carbone:lml:11/13/74
bcc: Regional Director, North Atlantic Region w/cy inc.
Director's Reading File
DI
DG w/cy inc.
PR w/cy inc.

✓ BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PR